



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : 10/065,278 Confirmation No. 5691  
Applicants : Leung et al.  
Filed : September 30, 2002  
Art Unit : 3731  
Examiner : Glen Dawson  
Docket No. : 013341.000021  
Customer No. : 24239  
Title : BARBED SUTURE IN COMBINATION WITH SURGICAL NEEDLE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT WITH REQUEST  
FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) UNDER (37 C.F.R. §114)**

Sir:

Applicants hereby request continued examination, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.114, for the above identified application. This request is being submitted prior to abandonment of the application and in response to the Office Action of July 20, 2005. An RCE fee, a Petition for Extension of Time, and a check in payment of the petition fee and excess claims fees are enclosed.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 16 of this paper.

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03 FC:1201 1400.00 DA  
04 FC:1202 4300.00 DA